Constitution of Wakf Tribunals in various States

3768. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU) : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the State Governments/Union Territories have not constituted Wakf Tribunals under the Wakf Act, 1995;

(b) whether it is affecting the cases involving Wakf Properties adversely; and

(c) the step taken by Government to expedite constitution of Wakf Tribunals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The States/Union Territories of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, National Capital Territory of Delhi, Lakshadweep and Pondicherry have reported constitution of Wakf Tribunals under the Wakf Act, 1995. Other States/UTs have been requested for setting up of Wakf Tribunals and taking appropriate action for smooth management of Wakf properties.

Representations regarding reservation to OBCs in educational institutions

3769. SHRI P. SOUNDARARAJAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUS TICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been made to Government for providing reservations to OBCs in educational institutions under the Central Government;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in the matter, and

(c) by when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As the reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in admission to educational institutions is a policy issue having a far reaching impact on the future of the education system in the country, wide ranging consultations are essential before arriving at a final decision in this regard. Presently, the Government is in the process of having consultations on this

issue with the National level organizations like University Grants Commission, All India Council of Technical Education, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti.

Report of Minorities Panel

3770. SHRI MOHD. AZAM KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had constituted a Minorities Panel headed by Dr. Gopal Singh;

(b) whether the panel has submitted its report to Government;

(c) the recommendations and the manner in which Government propose to proceed in the matter; and

(d) whether Government are going to place the Status Report on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) A High Power Panel on Minorities, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Weaker Sections was appointed by the Ministry of Home Affairs in May, 1980. The Panel, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Gopal Singh, submitted its Report on Minorities on 14th June, 1983. The Report contained 167 recommendations.

The Government, after considering the recommendations, had indicated its stand on the recommendations in the statement laid alongwith the report in both Houses of Parliament in August, 1990.

Non-implementation of Wakf Act, 1995 by State Governments

3771. SHRI MOHD. AZAM KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the State Governments have not implemented the Wakf Act, 1995, so far;

(b) if so, the names of the defaulting States/Union Territories;

(c) the action taken by her Ministry for implementation of the Wakf Act, 1995, throughout the country; and